

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
AND SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

JANUARY 6, 2015

ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL MASTER PLAN

The 2013 Strategic Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors included a directive to identify and prioritize County facilities that are reaching 50 years in age, need continuous maintenance, have legal mandates, and/or County service delivery needs. The County animal care facilities range from 38 to 68 years of age, have failing infrastructures, and need to be modernized or replaced.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Control's six animal care centers were built decades ago, and they require ongoing costly maintenance for failing systems. The outdated building materials also make animal disease control, disinfection, odor control and other environmental concerns difficult to manage.

The number of residents and animals served by the Department have grown significantly since the shelters were built, further taxing the Department's ability to provide services. The Baldwin Park and Downey Animal Control Shelters service the first, fourth and fifth districts in Los Angeles County, and have not expanded as the animal and residential population have increased. The sheer volume of animals cared for at the larger facilities including Baldwin Park, Carson and Downey animal care centers make general care, adoptions, and reclaims by owners overwhelming and difficult to effectively and efficiently manage. The parking areas for visitors are also limited, discouraging visitors who may want to adopt a pet.

Both the Downey and Baldwin Park animal care centers are located in areas that are unable to meet the expanding needs of the residents in their respective service areas.

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The Department of Animal Care and Control, in collaboration with the Departments of Regional Planning and Public Works, has already completed an initial needs assessment for animal care centers and found that additional evaluation is necessary to determine specific locations refurbishments and other improvements for all County service areas.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Chief Executive Office in consultation with the Department of Animal Care and Control and the Department of Public Works, report to the Board during the proposed budget discussion on a master plan that would:

1. Identify where animal care centers should be strategically located in service areas that will be accessible for customers and officers;
2. Determine how centers can be designed to provide a safe environment that protects the health, safety and welfare of the animals;
3. Develop a plan for short-term solutions to repair current unmet needs at the facilities, as well as recommendations for the replacement of County animal care facilities; and
4. Determine the costs for short-term and long-term plans.

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